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| **CHAPTER =**   * Houses were made from mud bricks * Lino was on the floor * Family had a special candlestick that belonged to Jamal’s mother’s family. They burned a candle in it before every battle. The family believed that ‘This will keep us safe’.(p35)   They prepared to leave. |
| **CHAPTER =**  Their dad carried Jamal and Bibi back into the cellar. He told them he was taking them to a safe place in the city and their mother would meet them there the next day. They said goodbye to Yusuf and his grandfather, who says, ‘God protect you all’ and left. Bibi asked if after tomorrow they will always be together and Jamal tells her they will. |
| **CHAPTER =**  Jamal and Bibi waited at Yusuf’s grandfather’s house while their parents warned the families of the other children who had been attending the school. Bibi was asleep. Jamal was watching soccer on the illegal satellite TV with Yusuf’s grandfather. A player was sent off for ‘going overboard’. Yusuf’s grandfather explained that in English the word overboard also means to do something that is bold, wild, dangerous and daring. (p39)  Jamal asked ‘If I get very good at soccer, do you think the government will forgive Mum and Dad?’  ‘If a person gets really good at soccer, so good that he inspires the government to start a national team….do you think the government would stop being cross with the person’s parents..?’  ‘Our problems are many,’ said Yusuf’s grandfather. ‘They started long before this government.’  Jamal then decided that if he could become the star of the Afghanistan soccer team maybe things would be better for everyone.  ‘Perhaps none of us will ever be threatened or bullied or killed again, not by the government or anyone.’ |
| **CHAPTER =**  They arrived in the city and Jamal noticed the trees. He commented that in the country there were no trees, but they were not real trees, they were tape trees. Light poles with cassette tapes hanging from them.  ‘The government hates music, so they confiscate tapes from motorists and chuck them up there as a warning.’(p53) Their father left them in an abandoned shop near the soccer stadium and said that he had to go and meet their mother. He gave Jamal a note and a wad of money and told him to find a taxi, if he was not back by late afternoon, and to give the note and the money to the driver, who would take them back to the village. Jamal decided that his parents were really going to talk to a government soccer official about Bibi and himself saving the country by becoming soccer stars and therefore he and Bibi should really be with them. |
| **CHAPTER =**  Jamal and Bibi waited for the yelling to start but instead their parents cuddled them and told them how important they were to them.  They then learnt that they had to leave their home that night as the government had discovered the illegal school their mother had been running |
| **CHAPTER =**  When everyone in the house was asleep, and his parents had not yet returned, Jamal went outside to practice soccer. Bibi had seen him sneak out and followed him. She flicked the ball away from his feet and kicked it down the street. It thumped into the door of their house. Then the house exploded. |